/234 cont./

*171 501 with a shaft and crook-handle (cf. the illustration /see Fig. 29, p. 243/). Holding the crook-handle with one hand and the lower part of the shaft with the other, the Indian pushes the oar down rather vertically by his side and levers it forward with powerful pressure. Often the thrusts follow one another very rapidly, the oar is thrown high in the air and changes hands with lightning speed. One of the rowers usually sits in front, the other in the [502] rear; the one in the rear steers with his paddle, the one in front shoots at fish. The only place to sit is a low clamped-in piece of [415] branch. In the center lies a carrying basket, protected from the rain with leaves. Loam and resin play a great part; /235/ the [396] bark easily cracks, especially in the bent-in stern, and lets in *171 502 water. Thanks to their great skill as pilots, the Bakaïrí shoot even through the swell of the cataracts without danger; the rapids with a greater fall downstream in the region of the Yuruna, however, could not be surmounted with the low and fragile bark canoes -- a noteworthy obstacle against the shifting of our tribes toward the north. Perhaps no less difficult would be the beating of the waves on the broader stream, which every strong wind [396] brings. On the other hand, the bark canoes have the tremendous advantage of being made in the shortest time. For this reason even the people at the Fazenda S. Manoel were satisfied with a canoe furnished by the Bakaïrí, which cost only one day's work. [482] They are easy to carry out of the forest to the shore; bast rings protect the shoulders.

*171 484 Fishing is done just as much as possible during a trip, and similarly eating. Smoking and singing en route are unknown.

*171 226 Fishing implements. The shooting of fish with bow and arrow provides only a little booty, in terms of number. I have reported on the fences or palings with which the river was blocked off near the second Bakaïrí village, on the "chiqueiras," the barrier made with twigs that closes off the mouths of brooks or the arms of lagoons, on the stone circles that were laid out, often in great numbers, in the shallow river bed near rapids, and where the fish entered from above through a narrow opening and, driven downstream, were caught in nets at the opposite exit, and, finally,